

## **REMARKS**

This is a preliminary amendment before the first Office Action.

Claims 24-41 are pending herein.

Claims 1-23 have been cancelled since their subject matter is claimed in the parent application 09/970,758.

Claims 24-26 have been rewritten in independent form.

This divisional application is filed herewith following a restriction requirement in the parent case, 09/970,758, in which an election was made via facsimile on June 3, 2002 to restrict examination in the parent application to method claims 1-23.

The specification is amended to add the priority claim to the parent application 09/970,758. The specification is also amended to include the serial number of a related application in paragraph [0016], and to correct certain inadvertent typographical errors in paragraphs [0020], [0023], and [0025].

## **CONCLUSION**

Applicant submits Claims 24-41 are in condition for allowance, early notification of which is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

**FEES**

If there are any fees due and owing in respect to this amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge such fees to deposit account number 50-1047.

Respectfully submitted,



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